



10/23/03

## MESSAGES FROM THE HOUSE

### **SB 252 (BRATER)**

Senate Bill 252 would establish annual fees for the discharge of wastewater. The fee level would be dependent on the facility's flow classification and whether it is a general or individual permit. Permits for agricultural purposes would not be subject to the application fee or the annual permit fee. The bill now raises \$2.9 million (a decrease from the \$3.4 million it collected when it left the Senate) with an additional \$2.0 million in general fund in the DEQ budget. The Governor had asked for \$7.2 million

#### House Changes:

- The governor is required to notify permit holders of the fee increase.
- Agriculture users were given an exemption that is estimated to amount to \$100,000.
- The fee no longer meets budget or Senate passed version of bill.
- Rule promulgation authority for the DEQ was removed.
- Changes were made to allow for judge shopping.
- The bill caps the amount of money the department can spend on NDPES.
- SB 510, the Storm water fee, was inserted in the middle of SB 252.

Support: MI Chamber of Commerce, MI Manufacturers Association, Consumers Energy, Michigan Municipal League, Michigan Township Association, Michigan Association of Counties, Michigan Farm Bureau.

Oppose: Michigan Environmental Council, Clean Water Action.

- The Senate did not concur with the changes to SB 252 [RC 501: 0 yes, 37 no]. McManus: This will not raise enough money.

### **SB 560 (LELAND)**

Senate Bill 560 would create an application fee and an annual groundwater discharge permit fee for facilities that discharge waste water into the ground or groundwater. Municipalities would be authorized to pass the cost of these permits on to customers.

The house passed version of the bill includes an estimated \$2 million in exemptions. The following groups are exempted: businesses smaller than 20 employees (\$1,500,000), agriculture users (\$202,350), private non-profits, schools, school districts, public colleges and universities (\$91,400), municipalities under 2,500 residents (\$282,350).

- The Senate did not concur with the changes to SB 560 [RC 502: 0 yes, 37 no]. McManus: This will not raise enough money.

## FINAL PASSAGE

### **SB 667 (Allen)**

The bill would amend the Mental Health Code to provide that, if a CMH board represented five or more counties with disproportionate populations, the number of board members could be expanded to more than 12 to ensure that each county was entitled to at least two board memberships.

Support: Mi. Assoc. of Counties, Northern Lakes CMH, Dept. of Community Health.

- SB 667 was passed [RC 507: 37 yes, 0 no].

### **SB 687 (Bishop)**

Senate Bill 687: If a vacancy occurs in the office of county executive for any reason, the chief deputy shall assume the duties. If the chief deputy is unable to serve, the next highest chief deputy shall assume the duties. In the case of death or resignation of the county executive, the county board of commissioners may appoint another county executive within 30 days. Election of a new county executive shall take place at the next general election. [This only affects Oakland and Bay Counties.]

- SB 687 passed [RC 504: 37 yes, 0 no].

### **SB 770 (Cropsey)**

Senate Bill 770 is designed to reduce the tax avoidance that is occurring because businesses are not filing tax forms 1099s with the Federal government or are filing them but with inaccurate information, or because taxpayers are not declaring 1099 income on their Michigan income tax return. Senate Bill 770 requires that any person who has to file a Form 1099 with the Federal government must also file it with the state.

Support: Building Trades Council.

- SB 770 passed [RC 505: 34 yes, 3 no (George, Goschka, Kuipers)].

### **HB 4311 (Meyer)**

HB 4311 would create a voluntary insurance fund paid for with farmers' money which would protect them in the case of a failure.

Support: Michigan Department of Agriculture, Michigan Farm Bureau, Michigan Agribusiness Association.

- HB 4311 passed with IE [RC 506: 37 yes, 0 no].

### **HB 5106 (Richardville)**

House Bill 5106 would make technical corrections regarding the licensure and continuing education of real estate brokers and salespersons.

Support: Michigan Association of Realtors, Department of Consumer and Industry Services.

- Committee 1 (S-1) was adopted [no RC].
- HB 5106 was moved to 3<sup>rd</sup> Reading.
- HB 5106 passed with IE [RC 503: 37 yes, 0 no].

## THIRD READING

### **HB 4070 (SPADE)**

House Bill 4070 provides that a publisher of a textbook adopted for use at a college or university shall furnish the institution with an electronic version of the book if it is for a literary subject or if available, to convert to a format compatible with Braille translation software.

- HB 4070 was moved to 3<sup>rd</sup> Reading. No amendments.